



Senator Shan S. Tsutsui

Hawaii State Senate

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MAUI SENATORS ANNOUNCE SENATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASK FORCE TO VISIT THE VALLEY ISLE

Honolulu, HI – In statements today, Maui Senators Shan Tsutsui, Rosalyn Baker, and J. Kalani English impressed upon the need for Maui residents to come before the Senate Affordable Housing Task Force on January 4th, 2005.

The task force, which has targeted affordable housing will convene a briefing to talk with Maui residents about housing issues.

The panel will be making stops statewide to discuss housing matters prior to the opening of the Legislature – January 19, 2005.

"As I have said previously, this is an important time and we must move our state in the right direction – affordable housing is one of those issues and I encourage all of Maui's residents to come out and talk to this panel" said Tsutsui.

English said, "We see the task force as a way for the Legislature to talk story with the community. The lack of affordable housing is an acute crisis affecting all of us in Maui County."

Said Baker, "We hope to come away from these community meetings with concrete ideas to help us create near-term solutions to ease our affordable housing shortage. We strongly urge the Maui community to come out; this is one community meeting you don't want to miss."

The task force will hold its Maui hearing on **Tuesday, January 4th, 2005** from **6:00 PM to 8:00 PM** in Maui Economic Opportunity ("MEO") conference room 1. MEO is located at 99 Mahalani Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793.

Tsutsui added, "We need a collaborative effort and these meetings will put lawmakers, business, labor, developers, and most importantly the general public face-to-face."

Invitations to attend the community meeting were extended to the offices of U.S. Senators Daniel K. Akaka and Daniel K. Inouye, U.S. Rep. Ed Case, Governor Linda Lingle, Maui's state House delegation, Mayor Alan Arakawa, and Maui County Council Chair Dain Kane and members of the council.

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